

## MEMBER NEWS

## Focus on a Federation Member: The North Carolina Presbyterian Historical Society

*By Joy Heitman, Awards Chair, North Carolina Presbyterian Historical Society*

**W**hat does the North Carolina Presbyterian Historical Society have to offer?

Members include anyone interested in North Carolina church history, in church architecture, in historical graveyards, and in meeting people with similar interests. You do not have to be Scottish or Scotch-Irish or even Presbyterian to come!

Since 1964 we have been meeting twice a year. Our spring Tour of Historic Churches is on a Friday and Saturday, usually the weekend after Easter. In the fall we have a one-day meeting at a Presbyterian church or college, with a guest speaker on a related topic. We

often include nearby historic sites as well. We always have a local church historian tell us about the history of the church and events such as the Revolutionary War, Civil War, or rapid urban development that have affected their congregation. Lately, the economic downturn was evident in communities we visited.

On October 13 we will be at the Scottish Heritage Center at St. Andrews University in Laurinburg, where Director Bill Caudill will talk about the Gaelic-speaking communities that lingered in NC into the 19<sup>th</sup> century. We invite you to join us; please call the program chairman Sam Martin at

(910) 428-4165 for more information, or visit the website at [www.ncphsociety.org](http://www.ncphsociety.org).

In April we were in Charlotte, and next April will find us in the Tarboro area.

I invite you to visit our webpage ([www.ncphsociety.org](http://www.ncphsociety.org)) to read about future trips and sample our past journeys. If you know of any recent books or projects on Presbyterian history, suitable for our awards, please write us at North Carolina Presbyterian Historical Society, P.O. Box 20804, Raleigh, NC 27619-0804.

## Apex Historical Society and Matthews Historical Foundation Celebrate 25 Years

**T**he year 2012 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of two Federation members, the Apex Historical Society and the Matthews Historical Foundation.

The Apex Historical Society is celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a special program each month. The Society is kicking off its yearlong celebration this October, with a Founders' Day program at the historic Halle Center on Sunday, October 14, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Plans for the program include a history of the Society's beginnings and recognition of charter members, former officers, and those who played a part in the organization. An AHS time line will be displayed in "Studio A," which will also feature a reception after the program.

Future programs and events are being planned and include speakers talking about the Civil War, telling stories about old Apex, and more. Be sure to check

the website ([www.apexhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.apexhistoricalsociety.com)) for updates.

The Matthews Historical Foundation is also celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> year. A short article on the Foundation's website, [www.matthewshistoricalfoundation.org](http://www.matthewshistoricalfoundation.org), traces some of its accomplishments over the years. These accomplishments include the restoration of the 1890 Reid House and the Massey-Clark House, which will hold the future Matthews Heritage Museum; the publication of *Matthews Memories* in 2009; the annual awarding of the Fullwood Restoration Award, given to a Matthews homeowner who has restored his or her property; and more.

The Federation extends congratulations to these two historical organizations on reaching their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary!